Loss of revenue due to uniform tax in Pondicherry

1690. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to implementation of uniform tax in the Union Territory of Pondicherry, the State has incurred a loss in revenue to the tune of Rs. 60 crore per year; and

(b) if so, in what manner Government are going to compensate the loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Government of Pondicherry has reported that due to introduction of Uniform Floor Rates of Sales Tax in the Union Territory, there is an estimated loss of Rs.57.62 crore as on 28 February, 2002.

(b) The gap, if any, between the non-plan expenditure and the receipts of the Government of Pondicherry is filled by the Central Government as part of normal budgetary support.

Stake of foreign banks in Indian Banks

1691. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has asked Government to clarify the foreign banks' stake in Indian Banks as reported in 'Business Standard' of February 9, 2002;

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the names of foreign banks in the country with their operations making inroads into nationalised banks:

(c) the details regarding the work culture of Indian and Foreign Banks; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating sweeping Bank reforms on the lines of China's Central Bank?